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REPORTCOUNTRY East GermanyTOPIC Soviet Troops in the East-Berlin Area

50X1-HUM

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 17 August 1953REFERENCES PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

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1. On 4 August 1953, troops and materiel entrained in Berlin-Schoeneweide included: 10 T-34/85 tanks 3 BA-64 armored scout cars, 50X1-HUM 1 six-wheel machine gun carrier, 5 x 76-mm field guns, 1 x 57-mm AT gun, 1 field kitchen, 2 jeeps, 1 radio truck, 2 trucks carrying sections of vehicles: about 40 trucks

 and a total of about 300 troops on 14 boxcars. The unit had come from the Wuhlheide and left toward Gruenau at about 1 p.m. ¹

2. On 4 August the Wuhlheide and Biesdorf Schlosspark assembly areas were still occupied by troops. Twenty-five tanks and SU-100 and JSU-152 guns were in the Biesdorf Schlosspark.

3. From 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. on 4 August, 12 T-34/85 tanks, 6 to 8 AT guns, 3 armored scout cars, 3 jeeps, 2 field kitchens, 2 ambulances, 2 van-like trucks and 10 to 15 trucks, including some carrying billeting equipment and and others of the B 8-01-xx series; and 10 boxcarloads of troops were entrained at the Schoeneweide railroad station. ¹

4. On 4 August, 10 T-34/85 tanks 2 armored scout cars, 50X1-HUM 3 x 76-mm field guns; about 35 trucks, 1 radio truck, 1 jeep, 1 machine gun carrier, and 15 boxcarloads of troops were entrained in Schoeneweide and, at 1:15 p.m., left toward Gruenau. ¹

5. On 29 July, three columns, each of about 70 to 80 vehicles, including trucks, jeeps, radio trucks and van-like trucks 50X1-HUM

 were in the assembly area in the Wuhlheide, immediately east of the Suedbahnhof Wuhlheide-Ostend road. A tent camp of 15 house tents, about 60 x 12-man tents and about 100 small quadrangular tents adjoined the motor pool. Two one-story temporary buildings were in the center of the tent camp. Four to 6 x 100-mm AT guns, about 8 x 76-mm light field guns, and about 6 to 8 mortars were seen at a gun parking lot on the north edge of the camp. Another four mortars were emplaced on the west edge of the camp. The tent

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was occupied by an estimated 3,000 troops.

6. On 29 July, another tent camp was determined at the northern edge of the Pionier-Republik Ernst Thaelmann. A crane truck, 4 prime movers, 1 van-like truck, 2 jeeps and about 15 trucks were seen in the camp. ²
7. On 28 July, about 20 to 30 T-34/85 tanks and SP guns were seen in the Schlosspark, southeast of the Biesdorf railroad station. Tents were at all open spaces in the Schlosspark. The columns were still there.

8. On 2 August, 15 to 20 SP guns were seen near the Biesdorf Schlosspark. ¹ more armored vehicles, which were well camouflaged, were parked there. House tents and numerous quadrangular tents were seen in the park. Troops quartered there wore red-bordered black epaulets. Motor vehicles ¹ were seen en route to the installation.

9. On 18 July, source determined that the komendatura on Grosse See Strasse, Weissensee, had been vacated. The apartment houses of the BVG block on the same street, which had been occupied by Soviet officers and dependents, as well as apartments on Trarbacher Strasse, Gracher Strasse and Wehlenauer Strasse, were also vacant. ³

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11. On 24 July, a tent camp was determined in the wood patch, east of the Biesdorf railroad station on the Berlin-Strausberg elevated railroad line. About 100 trucks, including about 50 loaded with pontoons, and about 20 JS-3 tanks were seen. The tent camp consisted of about 40 groups, each of 5 tents.
12. On 17 July, tanks were detrained in Gruenau-Adlershof-Eichwalde and Schoenweide.
13. On 4 August, 10 T-43 tanks ¹ were seen on a train, which was sidetracked at the Berlin-Adlershof railroad station. ¹

14. On 28 July, ¹ a troop camp in the wooded area in the south ¹ between Karlshorst and Wuhlheide. The camp was heavily guarded by VPs and Soviet troops, with double sentries posted at intervals of 50 meters. The troops were quartered in about 100 tents and numbered an estimated 550 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and signal insignia. 50X1-HUM
15. On 29 July, a tent camp occupied by about 1,500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia was determined in the wooded area northwest of Biesdorf and Kaulsdorf. About 15 JS-1 and JS-2 tanks were identified. According to a local resident, the troops had been there for about 14 days. ¹

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16. On 26 July, units from the Wuensdorf area were detrained in the Biesdorf area. [redacted] Forty-five tanks and SP guns were seen in the Biesdorf Schlosspark. 50X1-HUM
17. On 28 July, about 150 trucks were seen on the edge of the Biesdorf Stadtpark; and 10 T-34 tanks and 8 x 152-mm howitzers were in the park. Sentries observed were red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank insignia. Trucks [redacted] were seen en route to the installation. 50X1-HUM
18. Between 18 and 29 July, [redacted] the camp in Wuhlheide was heavily guarded by KVP and Soviet troops, with the sentries posted at a distance of 30 to 50 meters. During the period under review, the barracks installation on the Karlshorst racecourse was occupied by about 500 to 600 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. On 23 July, about 40 to 45 trucks, 18 sedans, 6 jeeps and 12 sidecar motorcycles were seen in this area.
19. During the period under review, the troop camp in the Wuhlheide was occupied by at least 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, mostly with 50X1-HUM tank and motor transport insignia. Eighty trucks, 40 armored scout cars and 12 T-34 and JS tanks were observed, in addition to an ammunition depot. [redacted]
20. At about 3 p.m. on 18 July, 15 boxcars carrying billeting equipment and troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets were unloaded at the Adlershof railroad station. At about 8:30 p.m. on 18 July, 15 SS-type flatcars, each carrying a canvas-covered tank, were at the Hirschgarten railroad station. [redacted] they were unloaded during the night.
21. At about 11 a.m. on 27 July, 8 T-43 tanks, 2 BA-64 armored scout cars, 4 armored vehicles, 4 radio trucks, 10 trucks, 6 field kitchens and 3 tents, as well as troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia, were seen in the north section of the Friedrichsfelde Schlosspark. [redacted] this quartering area included additional vehicles and weapons. It was rumored that the camp had been occupied on 20 July. 50X1-HUM
22. Between 15 and 20 July, each 10 to 15 boxcars carrying billeting equipment and ammunition boxes were detrained on several days at the Berlin-Adlershof freight station. 50X1-HUM
- [redacted] the Soviet troops had left during the preceding two days.⁶ 7 50X1-HUM
1. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] this train, which presumably carried a mixed unit of the 24th and/or 26th Gds Mecz Reg., [redacted] went to Fuerstenwalde under shipment-record No 61339.
2. [redacted] Comment. The Pioneer-Republik Ernst Thaelmann is located immediately northeast of the An der Wuhlheide Strasse, on either side of the Ostend Gestell and south of the Wuhlheide forestry and, during the summer months, quarters young members of the FDJ.

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Comment.

the 9th Tank Bn of the 19th Mecz Regt of the 1st Mecz Div from Doeberitz until 26 June 1953. Lieutenant Ptitsyn (fmu) probably belongs to this battalion. The elements of the 1st Mecz Div employed in Berlin bivouacked in the Wuhlheide area until mid-July.

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Comment.

The shipment was not indicated in reports on transportation. The transfer to Berlin of units of the 6th and 7th Gds Mecz Divs was completed about 19 July. The information that the troops came from Wuensdorf is given no credit.

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Comment.

Elements of the 12th Gds Tank Div had bivouacked in the area west of Buch and north of Berlin until 17 July. They returned to Neuruppin by rail.

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